

Rodney A. Yoell,\* San Francisco; Clarence G. Toland, Los Angeles; Harry H. Wilson, Los Angeles; Robert A. Peers, Colfax; Dewey R. Powell, Stockton; Irving S. Ingber, San Francisco; R. Langley Porter, San Francisco; Loren R. Chandler, San Francisco; Frederick N. Scatena, Sacramento; LeRoy Brooks, San Francisco; Louis Albert Packard, Bakersfield; Henry Dietrich, Los Angeles; John Hunt Shephard, San Jose; A. J. Scott, Jr., Los Angeles; W. W. Roblee, Riverside; Lyell C. Kinney, San Diego; John H. Graves, San Francisco; and George Dawson, Napa.

\* \* \*

*Preliminary Reports of the Committee of Five.*—The Committee of Five, appointed after last year's Riverside Annual Session and consisting of Doctors William R. Molony, chairman, Los Angeles, Harry H. Wilson, secretary, Los Angeles, Alson R. Kilgore, San Francisco, Robert A. Peers, Colfax, and Rodney A. Yoell of San Francisco, brought in two preliminary reports, copies of which were sent in February to all delegates and component county societies. Much work is still to be done before the final report of the Committee of Five is completed, but it is hoped that it may be finished in time for consideration at the Yosemite Annual Session on May 13-16. In this issue we are printing, on page 160, for the information of members of the Association, some excerpts from the First Preliminary Report. This report was submitted to the Committee of Five by its Survey Staff (Paul A. Dodd, Ph. D., director).

\* \* \*

*Minutes of the Special Session Should be Read by Every C. M. A. Member.*—A perusal of the minutes of the special session of the House of Delegates, to be found on page 194, will reveal that the die has been cast. Prior to voting on the resolutions, the delegates virtually agreed that, regardless of personal beliefs, Association members should work as a unit, to attain the objectives adopted. Every member of the California Medical Association, therefore, should read carefully the digest of proceedings printed in this issue, because a clear understanding of what has been proposed, as the best solution at hand on the medical economic problems confronting the profession, is of the utmost importance. The Council voted that the March issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE should be delivered to its readers two weeks later than its regular date of mailing, so that every member of the Association might be able to better visualize what had been done and is now before us.

\* \* \*

*Session Remarkable for Its Kindly Atmosphere.*—In bringing these comments to a close, the thought may be expressed that the headquarters building of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, with its quiet and restful atmosphere, was a real factor in promoting the amenities of courteous interchange of thought and fellowship

\* Doctor Yoell who, on the Committee of Five, was most active in advocacy of the plan incorporated in the Ingber resolution, had declined membership on the Committee of Six, expressing himself, however, as being willing to serve on the advisory committee.

that were so much in evidence throughout the two-day session, as has been happily expressed in a resolution.

In conclusion, it is to be hoped that delegates from the county societies may use the reports\* in this issue as a basis for general discussion at early meetings of their respective groups.

#### A. M. A. HOUSE OF DELEGATES AND HEALTH INSURANCE

*The American Medical Association Special Session Report Is Printed in This Issue.*—On page 207 of this number of the official journal appears the complete report of the Reference Committee of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association, as submitted at the special session which was held at Chicago on February 15 and 16.

As is well known, the American Medical Association House of Delegates is composed of representatives from each of the constituent state associations; the apportionment rules permitting, for example, the five thousand members of the California Medical Association to have seven delegates. In every particular, the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association may be stated to be composed of a group of physicians who are truly representative of the more than one hundred thousand medical men making up the membership of the national organization.

The House of Delegates was in special session for two full days, the business to be transacted being

"limited to the consideration of the social and economic policies of the Association, as related to pending and proposed legislation, to sickness insurance and to other matters which may be submitted by the Board of Trustees."

\* \* \*

*The American Medical Association Report Should Be Read by Every California Medical Association Member.*—The report of the Reference Committee was given by its chairman, Dr. Harry H. Wilson of Los Angeles, and is a pronouncement worthy of the careful thought and consideration of every member of the California Medical Association. Each of our representatives who went to the Chicago meeting put aside his personal professional work for more than a week in order, as a delegate from the California Medical Association, to render his bit of service to his fellows. Every other member of the California Medical Association should also do his bit by at least acquainting himself with the conclusions finally arrived at by our national body.

\* \* \*

*Special Session of the California Medical Association House of Delegates.*†—The House of Delegates of our own State Association will meet

\*Excerpts from the California survey, as given in the Preliminary Report, appear on page 160; resolutions of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association on page 207; and minutes and resolutions of the special session of the House of Delegates of the California Medical Association, on pages 187 and 194.

†The call of the special session of the House of Delegates of the California Medical Association was printed on page 126 of the February issue. As previously stated, the March issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE is brought off the press two weeks later than its regular mailing date to permit inclusion of the minutes of the special session of the House of Delegates of the California Medical Association.

at Los Angeles in special session on Saturday, March 2,

(a) to receive and consider the report of the Committee of Five, and to take such action thereon, and to formulate such principles and policies in regard to health insurance, medical services and medical care as the judgment and wisdom of the delegates may determine to be for the best interests of the public and the members of the Association;

(b) to transact such other business of the Association as may be transmitted to the House of Delegates by the Council of the Association.

If possible, the action taken on behalf of the California Medical Association by its own House of Delegates will also be printed in this issue.†

### YOSEMITE ANNUAL SESSION

*This Year's Annual Session from May 13 to 16.*—The attention of members is called to the fact that in about two short months the annual session, to be held May 13 to 16 at Yosemite National Park, will be upon us.

Because of the excellent scientific and other programs which are promised, and of the opportunity to see this wonderland of the national park service in a special setting of cordial, professional fellowship, every member of the California Medical Association who can conveniently arrange his work is urged to attend this year's meetings.

\* \* \*

*Interchange of Thought on Medical Problems Important.*—The exchange of viewpoints on some of the important economic and other problems which confront organized and scientific medicine is today much to be desired, in fact more than ever before. Keep in mind that the California Medical Association needs you and that you need the California Medical Association. At Yosemite these beneficial contacts can be most happily realized and appreciated. Elsewhere in this issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE (on page 212) is a list of the hotels. Whether you go into the Yosemite Park by train and stage, or by automobile, it is advisable to make hotel reservations in ample time. Such coöperation will aid the hotel management in giving adequate service to all who attend. The complete scientific and other programs will be printed in next month's issue.

### PROPOSED PUBLIC HEALTH LEGISLATION

*List of Proposed Public Health Laws.*—On page 229 of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE is printed a list of almost two hundred bills having to do, directly or indirectly, with public health laws of California, thirty-five having been submitted by State Senators and about one hundred and fifty by State Assemblymen. Brief comments indicate the nature of the proposed statutes. The perusal of the list is commended to all members of the California Medical Association be-

† Editor's Note.—The March issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE is mailed later than usual in order to print proceedings of the special session of the House of Delegates, held at Los Angeles on March 2 and 3. See page 194 for these reports.

cause, in that way, the profession will better be able to appreciate the heavy labors in store for the Committee on Public Policy and Legislation (of which Dr. Junius B. Harris of Sacramento is chairman) and other officers.

\* \* \*

*Proposed Legislation Is of Importance to All Physicians.*—Any member who feels that such perusal might prove a waste of time may be reminded that some of the proposed laws have to do with compulsory health insurance, and that in their amended and final form (if they should go on to enactment) they would very considerably change the scientific and economic phases of medical practice. By now every alert member of the medical profession knows that in the national congress and also the legislatures of some forty states which will be in session this year, not one, but many measures are sure to be introduced which, should they become laws, would bring about radical departures from the established form of medical practice. However, at this time it is not our purpose to discuss the important subject of health (sickness) insurance in these columns, lest the editor's personal views be misunderstood and accepted as official statements from the Association or its officers. Until the Committee of Five (appointed through action of the House of Delegates at last year's Riverside annual session) brings in its report, and until the House of Delegates of the California Medical Association acts thereon, these editorial columns will call attention only to reports printed in this or other journals which may aid members of the Association to secure as broad a viewpoint as possible of different phases of the much-complicated health insurance problem.

\* \* \*

*The Hoffman Articles.*—In this connection, reference may be made to the series of contributed articles from the pen of Frederick L. Hoffman, which began in April, 1934, and now are brought to a close in the current issue.\* We understand that some criticism has been made concerning these papers, but to date the editor has received no communications in which specific attention is called to any errors or misstatements by Doctor Hoffman. Had such been received they would have been given publicity in regular manner in the Correspondence column. It may be proper, therefore, to state that the policy of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, as laid down by the Council, regarding contributed articles, has been posted for years at the editorial masthead and is expressed in the following language:

*Responsibility for Statements and Conclusions in Original Articles.*—Authors are responsible for all statements, conclusions and methods of presenting their subjects. These may or may not be in harmony with the views of the editorial staff. It is aimed to permit authors to have as wide latitude as the general policy of the JOURNAL and the demands on its space may permit. The right to reduce or reject any article is always reserved.

\*At the 230th meeting of the Council it was voted to complete the series of Hoffman articles on phases of sickness insurance (Item 11 on page 213).